

17. Wise deities, keep away from us,
that we may
live, the many doers of sin who come
against us.¹

18. *Adityas* and ADITI, let that which
releases
us² as a prisoner from his bond, be ever
the object
of our praise and worship,

19. Not to us is there strength enough
to burst
from this (net); O *Adityas*, do you grant
us your
favour,

20. Let not this weapon of YiYAswAT;³
this net
made with hands, ADITYAS, destroy us
before old
age.⁴

21* *AdityaS*) utterly destroy our
enemies, destroy
wickedness, destroy the closely drawn
net, destroy
evil everywhere*

¹ This verse might be better rendered, "O wise
deities, ye help
to life many a one who turns from sin."

² According to Sayana, this may be either the
net or your
favour. In the former case the net itself is
supposed by the
favour of the gods to become as it were the
instrument of
deliverance.

³ *i.e.* Tama, properly the son of Yivaswat.

⁴ Sayana says **pur& purve* (nu* *iddnim*,
sar^vaAetyartTiaJi^

'jarasa' i&anim jirndn, "let it not destroy us, now
and of old
infirm;" but this seems needlessly artificial.